

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement filed May 7, 2007 has been submitted for consideration by the Office. It has been placed in the application file and the information referred to therein has been considered.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1 & 4 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This invention deals with an electrical cable having a conductor core and a sheathing layer covering the core, the sheathing layer made of a synthetic resin material and having an outer surface with a mono-color, the cable comprising: a first mark having a first color and provided on a first part outer surface portion of an outer surface of the sheathing layer, and a second mark having a second color and provided on a second part outer surface portion of the outer surface of the sheathing layer, wherein the second color is different from the first color, and the second part outer surface portion is positioned ~ opposite side~the first side outer surface portion in a circumferential direction of the cable, the first and second marks positioned at an end of the cable so as to be opposite to each other in relation to an axial center of the cable, wherein the sheathing layer of the cable has the first and second outer surface portions each extending in a longitudinal direction of the cable, at least one of the first and second outer surface portions is provided with a plurality of the first and second marks that are alternately positioned in the longitudinal

direction of the cable, and the first mark is longer than the second mark in the longitudinal direction (claim 1). The above stated claim limitations is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed June 27, 2008 have been fully considered and they are persuasive. Specifically, the applicant's argument that "Masuda et al. nor Konda teach the claimed "a first mark having a first color and provided on a first outer surface portion of an outer surface of the sheathing layer, and a second mark having a second color and provided on a second outer surface portion of the outer surface of the sheathing layer, wherein the second color is different from the first color, and the second outer surface portion is positioned opposite the first outer surface portion in a circumferential direction of the cable, the first and second marks positioned at an end of the cable so as to be opposite to each other in relation to an axial center of the cable", as presently claimed" is persuasive and therefore claims 1 & 4 have been allowed.

### ***Communication***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William H. Mayo III whose telephone number is (571)-

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272-1978. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-6:00 pm (alternate Fridays off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F.F. Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272-2245 or (571) 272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William H. Mayo III/

William H. Mayo III  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2831

WHM III  
November 6, 2008